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Reports from Shanghai—Inspection of vessels—Smallpox—Epidemic diseases at Chefoo and Chinkiang.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, March 20 and 27:

Week ended March 16, 1907. Two original and 2 supplemental bills of health granted to 4 vessels with an aggregate personnel of 477; 3 vessels, 188 crew, and 16 steerage passengers inspected. The U. S. Cruiser *Helena* was granted a bill of health for Manila without inspection, upon the certificate of her medical officer.

One case of inguinal bubo was investigated.

Manifests were viséed for 2,838 pieces of freight, and the effects of 34 Asiatics, crew of the steamship *Tonarwanda*, disinfected by steam; the men were bathed and their forecastles thoroughly cleansed and washed down.

The weekly report of the municipal health department shows that there were reported among foreigners 2 new cases of smallpox and among natives 4 deaths from smallpox.

The American consul-general at Chefoo states that in a native village some 30 miles southwest of that port several hundred people have recently died, after a sickness of from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, characterized by "severe headache, pains in the loins, stomach, and chest, and the vomiting of blood and water," the disease being called "spinal meningitis." A like epidemic is reported in progress at Wei Hisen, situated on the railway to Tsingtau, although I have had no advice regarding it from the American consul at Tsingtau.

These are the only diseases reported from outports.

Week ended March 23, 1907. Two original and 2 supplemental bills of health granted to 4 vessels, with an aggregate personnel of 2,452; and 2 vessels, 396 crew, and 140 steerage passengers inspected; manifests viséed for 486 pieces of freight.

Two vessels, the U. S. cruisers *Colorado* and *Pennsylvania*, were granted bills of health for the Philippine Islands, without inspection, upon certificate of their medical officers.

The weekly report of the municipal health department shows, among natives, 18 deaths from smallpox.

There is a very considerable increase in the reported deaths from smallpox. These represent only a fraction of those actually occurring, and it may be stated that the disease is very prevalent.

No quarantinable diseases have been reported during the week from outports, but the press reports an epidemic raging in the vicinity of Chinkiang, about a day's sail up the Yangtze. Hundreds are dying every day of a disease characterized by fever, great prostration, and death in twenty-four hours.

COSTA RICA.

Reports from Limon, fruit port—Local conditions.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Goodman reports as follows: Week ended April 13, 1907. Estimated population, 6,000; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.